

## Technical Standards

The following activities are examples of the kind of activities which a student in the Respiratory Therapy program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program. If an accepted applicant believes that he or she cannot meet one of more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the applicant should consult the director of the program for student with disabilities.

Requirements		
Issue	Standard	Example
<b>Critical Thinking</b>	A Respiratory Therapy student should possess critical thinking and problem-solving skills sufficient for clinical judgment.	Students must be able to identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations and develop and/or participate in the development of respiratory care patient plans.
<b>Interpersonal Skills</b>	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient for interaction with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.	A student must be able to establish rapport with patients, families and other health care members.
<b>Communication Skills</b>	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess communication skills sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures; initiate health teaching; document and interpret therapeutic interventions and patient responses.

<p><b>Mobility/Physical Stamina</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk for extensive periods of time. Students should also possess the ability to lift and/or manipulate 45-50 lbs.</p>	<p>Move around in patients' rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas; administer cardiopulmonary procedures, and position patients/clients.</p>
<p><b>Motor Skills</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care procedures.</p>	<p>Set up, calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients; perform CPR.</p>
<p><b>Auditory</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students must possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.</p>	<p>Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultate breath and heart sounds, cries for help.</p>
<p><b>Visual Acuity</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for patient care.</p>	<p>Observe patient/client responses; see calibration and alarms for equipment; patient assessment.</p>
<p><b>Tactile/Hand-eye Coordination</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students shall possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.</p>	<p>Auscultation, percussion, palpation, and the therapeutic interventions.</p>
<p><b>Emotional Resilience</b></p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy students shall possess the ability to cope with stress and pressure of working in high-stakes healthcare environments.</p>	<p>Respiratory Therapy involves care of patients/clients that are critically ill, are facing life-and-death situations, and are dealing with anxieties related to breathing difficulties.</p>

Requirements		
Issue	Standard	Example
<b>Cognitive Abilities</b>	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess the ability to be oriented to time, person, and place, organize responsibilities, and make decisions.	Student shall assess patient/client complaints and implement appropriate treatment.
<b>Occupational Exposures</b>	Respiratory Therapy students may be exposed to communicable disease and/or body fluids, toxic substances, and medicinal preparations. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times.	Student may be assigned to a client/patient with a communicable disease and shall provide total care using universal precautions.
<b>Ethical and Professional Behavior</b>	A Respiratory Therapy student shall possess ethical and professional behavior, including maintaining patient confidentiality and adhering to professional standards and guidelines.	A student must not share patient information, including taking photos of any patient that could violate HIPPA regulations or hospital and school social media policies. A student must follow the standards and school guidelines regarding aseptic technique and professional scope of practice at all times.

**Please note: Examples are not all inclusive.**